

# Wife assault

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Grants for  
education  
of health  
professionals

Ministry of Health  
 Ontario  
Elinor Caplan, Minister

## ***The need***

Wife assault is a crime that has been hidden too long. In Ontario, there is a new preventive approach based on law enforcement, education and family-focused support. We are developing new ways to help the battered wife and to help change the behaviour of the batterer who assaults her.

Ontario is establishing new programs to reduce the incidence of wife assault. Although some support services are becoming available to help the battered wife and other family members, we now need to teach more people how to respond. Health professionals are well-placed to recognize the signs of wife assault and to refer the victim and the batterer to the appropriate services and supports.

## ***The response***

The Ministry of Health will provide funds to increase understanding and awareness within the health professions of the characteristics and the appropriate responses to battered women and batterers.

The Ministry is encouraging health professional associations and other organizations to join in creating education and training programs, along with the necessary resource materials.

Proposals might include programs and materials which:

- inform professionals about the range and depth of community resources;

- show how to identify the battered woman and how to put her in touch with appropriate support;
- expand health professionals' abilities to provide emotional as well as the medical assistance to battered women;
- provide education about ways of treating batterers.

### ***How you can help***

The Ministry welcomes proposals involving co-operation between various organizations, including health professional associations, community organizations, hospitals and other health care settings.

This five-year program provides grants for one-time projects and for renewable projects.

We will ask for the name of your organization, your organization's contact with battered women and/or men who batter, who you intend to reach, what you intend to do and what you want to achieve over the selected time period.

You should also be able to tell us the names of other financial contributors, and how you intend to measure success. We will need a breakdown of your budget requirements for staff, supply and services.

More information on the program and application forms can be obtained by calling or writing:

Women's Health Bureau  
Ministry of Health  
880 Bay Street, Suite 215  
Toronto, Ontario M5S 1Z8  
(416) 965-0460

